Equal Rights

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FEDERAL BUREAU

Scene at Inter American Commission of Women's Headquarters, Geneva

Left to right: Margaret Volinski, Yugoslavia, Director of Geneva Headquarters of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; Alice Paul, member of the National Council of the National Woman's Party and Chairman Nationality Committee of Inter-American Commission of Women; May Oung, Burma, Secretary All-Asian Conference of Women; Mrs. George F. Laidlaw of New York, member of the National Woman's Party; Helen Hay, officer Federation of University Women of United States; Margaret Whittemore, member of the National Council of the National Woman's Party and Vice-President of Equal Rights International.

Equal Rights

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 52]
[House Joint Resolution Number 55]
Introduced in the Senate June 4, 1929, by Senator Gerald P. Nye, North Dakota.
Introduced in the House April 25, 1929, by Representative Frederick W. Magrady, Pennsylvania.

Doors

ELEVEN years ago, on August 26, a new law was proclaimed in the land. The State of Tennessee had ratified the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution, and, being the thirty-sixth to do so, had given the country a law which seemed to open wide the doors upon a lovely vista of equality for women. Perhaps only the women who fought so hard for the law suspected it at all.

That vista has been illusive, the opening of the door, a miracle as a beginning, a disappointment as an ending. Perfect equality, actual equality has been glimpsed through keyholes at the end of a long, long corridor of doors.

But that row of doors decreases in number each year, each month as women fight on with the same determination and hope and courage that enabled Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Inez Milholland, Alice Paul, Doris Stevens, Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, and all the other tireless, "great ones" to open the first, heaviest door without which the others might not have been reached.

And the row of doors will open quickly, pushing one upon the next, like a tumbling line of dominoes, when the Lucretia Mott Amendment providing "Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction" is finally passed by the Congress which it has been before for years and is ratified by the States.

The National Woman's Party is not resting upon its oars nor dreaming of the past even at this time of anniversary. It likes to remember the early days, the struggles and successes. It recalls with excitement the thrills of that final Tennessee campaign and Sue White who fought during that fight tells of them in this issue. It takes pride in listing Equal Rights measures which it has drawn up or supported in twenty-five States and Territories, but it keeps adding to its lists and to its projects and its work.

So on this eleventh anniversary the National Woman's Party looks back and sees an open way, then looks ahead to locks and bolts and bars and remembers other doors once closed.

A Change of Heart?

WILLIAM GREEN, president of the American Federation of Labor, is worrying about the six million men and women out of work in this country. For their benefit he has written a proposal and defense of the five-day week and it appeared in the New York *Times* on August 9.

He is worrying about women as well as men, you will note. A bit of a surprise, this latter day interest in the woman worker. The American Federation of Labor so long fought the Equal Rights Amendment and equality for women in industry that sight or sound of its initials immediately conjure visions of past, present, and future attempts to throw women out of jobs they hold and to bar doors and draw bolts against their entrance into new fields.

Yet Mr. Green begins with "six million working men and *women* of America were without work in January . . ."; says, "Society owes all persons an opportunity to earn a living"; states that "Depression has only intensified and brought to public notice a problem which was threatening to involve millions of men and *women,*" and concludes with a repetition of his sentiment, "No economic order has the right to social sanction that does not take as a cardinal responsibility its stewardship to provide work opportunities for all." Noble if sincere, merely high-sounding if not.

Throughout most of his article the masculine pronouns suffice Mr. Green. His discussion of the extra week-end day afforded by a five-day week is all concerned with "Father's" use of his leisure. Yet there are these three or four noted absolute outbursts of equality. How can he reconcile them with the attitude of his organization? How his generosity and daring must shock him upon a re-reading of his piece.

Yet is Mr. Green daring or is he cautious—seeking the universal, sexless appeal for an audience for his argument?

Or is he careless and tricked into statements and sentiments foreign to him—at least heretofore—by the mellifluent sound of words and the habit of that nice little phrase, "men and women."

Perhaps he doesn't even realize he has said anything interestingly unusual and a re-reading, unless as here translated and itemized, won't shock him at all.

Cautious, careless, or merely unconscious, Mr. Green is certainly inconsistent. We can hope, but cannot count upon this clash of stand and statement as presaging a change of heart.

Toward Nationality Equality

THREE great strides toward an equal world code of nationality have been made in the past month.

Uncompromising support of equal nationality has been given in that period by the Institute of International Law; by the Government of the United States; and by women themselves through the Consultative Committee of Women created by the League of Nations to submit recommendations for a world law on the nationality of women.

First, the Institute of International Law, meeting in Cambridge, England, the first week in August, unanimously adopted a resolution approving the creation of the League of Nations Women's Consultative Committee of Nationality, and advocating its continuance. Furthermore, the Institute appointed a committee from its own distinguished membership of international jurists to work with the Consultative Committee of Women and draft an equality project for next year; Dr. James Brown Scott, president of the American Institute of International Law, was named chairman of this Liaison Committee.

Second, the United States Government in the text of its official reply to the League concerning the codification of international law, ratifies the dramatic stand of the United States delegation to The Hague Codification Conference last year, which refused to sign a nationality convention discriminating against women. The League of Nations, giving out the observations by the governments on the Progressive Codification of International Law, quotes the following observation from the Department of State of the United States:

"It is regretted that because of the unsatisfactory provisions on two important points—expatriation and the nationality of married women—the Government of the United States was unable to sign the Convention on Nationality."

It should be noted that, while indignant protest against the proposed convention has come from the women of all countries, and while only Norway and Monaco have ratified the convention, the United States is the only government which, in replying to the League's questions about further work on the project of codification, has expressed dissatisfaction with The Hague convention's treatment of the nationality of women. It is already obvious that the League gives great weight to this reply from the United States.

The third landmark of progress toward equality is the statement by the Consultative Committee of Women which opens its report to be presented to the League at the September session. This statement presents flatly the demand of women for equality with men as regards nationality. It reads as follows:

"Realizing the far-reaching consequences for women—for greater freedom or greater subjection involved in the project of the League of Nations for the codification of international law, which may lead to the establishing of a World Code of Law, this committee presents the following statement concerning the Nationality Convention drawn up by The Hague Conference in 1930, and which was designed to form the opening section of the proposed code:

"1. This committee declares that it is opposed to The Hague Nationality Convention inasmuch as it differentiates between men and women as regards nationality.

"2. This committee wishes to express its support of the proposal put before The Hague Codification Conference by the delegation from Chile for a world agreement on nationality, reading:

"The contracting States agree that from the going into effect of this convention there shall be no distinction based on sex in their law and practice relating to nationality."

"3. This committee, finally, urges the Assembly of the League of Nations to take immediate steps:

(1) to bring about the reconsideration of The Hague Nationality Convention, and

(2) to submit to the governments for ratification a new convention founded on the principle of equality between men and women with regard to nationality."

The first meeting of the Women's Consultative Committee was held in the League of Nations Building in Geneva, July 2-6. The second meeting, which drew up plans for committees as its work during the League Assembly in September, is just closing its sessions in the League of Nations Building, having convened there on August 17. At this meeting Alice Paul, a founder of the Woman's Party of the United States, and Marta Vergara, of Chile, represent the Inter-American Commission of Women; Margaret Whittemore, of California and Michigan, and Anne Godyevatz, of Jugo-Slavia, the Equal Rights International; Madeline Doty of New York, and Mme. E. M. Meller of Hungary, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; Clara Guthrie d'Arcis, of Louisiana and Switzerland, and Mlle. M. Nobs, of Switzerland, the World Union of Women for Internatinoal Concord; Mme. Bakker Nort and Lily van de Schalk, both of Holland, the International Alliance for Suffrage; Dr. Rosa Welt Straus, formerly of Maryland, now of Palestine, and May Oung, of Burma, India, the All-Asian Conference of Women; and Mme. Schreiber-Favre, of Switzerland, the Interntional Federation of University Women.

Alice Paul and Doris Stevens, representing the Inter-American Commission of Women, have taken a leading part in the proceedings of the Consultative Committee and in the events leading up to its creation. They are both members of the National Woman's Party which has led the fight for equal nationality in the United States.

Again Dr. James Brown Scott

THE resolution regarding equality in nationality adopted unanimously by the Institute of International Law at its meeting in England early in August and referred to elsewhere in this paper is of tremendous importance to women and again they find themselves deeply indebted to that staunch Feminist, Dr. James Brown Scott, who introduced the resolution.

The significance of the unanimous passage of the resolution lies in the fact that it provides, for the first time in the Institute's fifty-eight years, for the creation of a committee from its own membership to work in liaison with women.

It is understood that Dr. Scott is to be the rapporteur of the projected committee. A well-known believer in equality in nationality, an indefatigable worker for an equal world code, his appointment would be joyfully acclaimed by women in all countries.

Dr. Scott is past president of the Institute and one of its few members from this hemisphere since its membership is principally composed of jurists of Europe and Asia. He is president of the American Institute of International Law, which, through its executive board at its last meeting in Havana, approved the Treaty for Equal Nationality Rights. He is also secretary of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, a professor in Georgetown University, an authority on international law, the author of a brilliant and varied series of books, and above all a great Feminist to whom women of the world again and continually owe a debt of gratitude.

When she received the news from Cambridge of the introduction of the resolu-

tion by Dr. Scott and its passage by the Institute of International Law, Doris Stevens, who broke a precedent in 1929 and became the first woman speaker to appear before the august Institute, expressed her delight and termed the resolution of "supreme importance."

And to her, the tireless and gallant general of the forces for equal nationality, it means "a fresh indication that we shall have a new and perfect nationality convention in the near future!"

Following is the resolution:

"Considering that the League of Nations, in its labors devoted to the codification of international law, has thought it desirable to ask the opinion of Feminist organizations upon questions which are of particular concern to women; and approving the creation made in this spirit, by the Council of the League of Nations, on January 24, 1931, of a commission, composed of representatives of such organizations and charged with formulating proposals to be annexed to the report which will be presented to the Assembly of the League of Nations;

"Considering the declaration made by the said Consultative Commission at its first session held in Geneva from July 2 to 6, 1931, a statement by which this commission declared its opposition to The Hague Nationality Convention of 1930, insofar as it differentiates between men and women in nationality, and asked that there be submitted to governments a new convention founded on the principle of equality between men and women in the matter of nationality[1];

"Considering that the Institute of International Law itself at its New York session in 1929 adopted a 'declaration of the international rights of man' by the terms of which sex could not be considered as a basis of discrimination, direct or indirect, in the recognition of these rights (Articles 1, 4, 5 of said declaration)[2];

"Decides

"To place on the agenda of its study the questions mentioned by the First Codification Conference of The Hague, 1930, in the resolution by the terms of which this conference recommended to States to examine the point to see whether it would not be possible:

"1. To incorporate in their law the principle of the equality of the sexes in the matter of nationality, taking into account particularly the interests of children, and

"2. To decide especially that henceforth the nationality of a woman should not, in principle, be changed without her consent, whether by the sole fact of marriage or by a change of nationality of her husband.

"Invites a competent commission of the Institute to proceed with this study in liaison with the commission created by the Council of the League of Nations, and expresses the desire that the League of Nations will continue to avail itself in a consultative capacity of the advice of the commission already created by the Council."

This resolution was unanimously adopted by the Institute.

(1) "The contracting States agree that from the going into effect of the present treaty there shall be no distinction based on sex in their law and practice relating to nationality." (Proposal of Miss Alice Paul and Miss Doris Stevens.)

ARTICLE 1

(2) "It is the duty of every State to recognize the equal right of every individual to life, liberty and property, and to accord to all on its territory full and entire protection of this right, without distinction of nationality, sex, race, language or religion."

ARTICLE 4.

"No cause based directly or indirectly on the difference of sex, race, language or religion shall authorize States to refuse to any of their nationals private and public rights, notably admission to institutions of public instruction, and the exercise of various economic activities, professions and industries."

ARTICLE 5.

"The foregoing equality must not be nominal, but effective. It excludes all direct or indirect discrimination."

The All-Asian Conference

FATE or providence played a guiding hand in shaping events surrounding the All-Asian Women's Conference for the good of Feminism throughout the world, judging from the thrilling story of lucky chances and coincidence told by Margaret Cousins, secretary of the Women's Indian Association and editor of *Stri Dharma*.

At a tea given in her honor at Alva Belmont House Sunday, August 23, Mrs. Cousins gave an intimate account of the conference, which gave such timely and needed support to Feminist agitation at Geneva for equal nationality rights.

Muna Lee, director of national activities of the National Woman's Party, introduced Mrs. Cousins as a Feminist who had been imprisoned for the cause of suffrage in her own country, Ireland, and had given 15 years of her life to improving the lot of the women of India.

Miss Lee said that Mrs. Cousins was largely responsible for bringing about the First All-Asian Women's Conference and despite her efforts at self-effacement, her great service to Indian women is recognized and appreciated by the women of that country.

Telling the story of how the All-Asian Women's Conference sent the cable to Geneva in support of Alice Paul's efforts to obtain equal nationality rights for women, Mrs. Cousins recalled a former visit to Washington and contacts with National Woman's Party workers here.

Miss Paul was in Washington at the same time and knowing of Mrs. Cousins's Feminist activities, invited her to dinner. Thus Mrs. Cousins learned of Alice Paul's work at Geneva and Miss Paul learned of Mrs. Cousins's cherished wish to see a conference of the women of Asia organized.

Returning to India, Mrs. Cousins worked to bring her dream into reality and in due course of time the conference met at Lahore with delegates from Japan, China, Java, Ceylon, Burma, Persia, and Afganistan in attendance.

The Asian meeting convened at Lahore on the day before the League of Nations Council was to meet to pass on the nationality rights of women.

Alice Paul cabled Mrs. Cousins for the support of the Asian Women's Conference. There was no time to be wasted and so Mrs. Cousins introduced the question at the opening session.

Though there was little time for discussion or argument, the suggestion of equal nationality rights for women found ready support among the Asian women, who have a strong sense of nationality and felt that it was unjust that they should forfeit their citizenship by marrying foreigners.

The resolution was passed and a cable sent just in time. The importance of this occurrence to the cause of Feminism in Asia and in the world was amply proved by the results at Geneva. For, according to Alice Paul, the attitude of Asian members of the League of Nations Council changed perceptibly after the receipt of the cable, voicing the attitude of Asian women on citizenship.

The League Council voted to consider the wishes of women before deciding on their rights as citizens. The formation of the Consultative Committee of Women on Nationality was the result.

By a further combination of enterprise and good luck, the All-Asian Women's Conference succeeded in sending a representative to the Women's Consultative Committee on Nationality. This was May Oung, a young Burmese Feminist, who ably seconded Mrs. Cousins in obtaining the support of the conference for the cause of equal nationality rights.

Miss Oung wanted to serve as a delegate to Geneva but would have been unable to go because of the expense, which the conference was able only partly to defray, but for the fact that she was asked to represent the women of Burma on another mission. This afforded her sufficient resources for the expensive journey.

Apart from this international phase of the All-Asian Women's Conference, the Lahore meeting deserves an important place in the history of Feminism as being the first expression of the women of Asia concerning their rights and duties.

As a result of discussions and interchange of opinion, eleven resolutions were adopted by the conference. These resolutions were passed by the delegates with-

out of the presence of any of the western visitors to the conference and so is the expression of the Asian women themselves, according to Mrs. Cousins.

The fifth resolution urges the Asian countries to grant Equal Rights to men and women. This resolution was read by Mrs. Cousins as follows:

"This conference, realizing the inherent equality of women and men, demands that efforts should be made to give them equal opportunities in life (where such do not exist):

(a) by the abolition of polygamy,
(b) Equal Rights over guardianship of children and property,
(c) Equal Rights of divorce,
(d) equal adult franchise, and
(e) Equal Rights of nationality for women."

Mrs. Cousins said that while the conference did not receive a great deal of publicity in the Hindu papers, owing to political questions which monopolized the headlines, the Geneva cable focused the attention of the world on the meeting of Asian women—and so, again, lucky coincidence and the unity of purpose of Feminists in the East and West worked for the common good.

Close-Up of Indian Feminism

GUESTS at the informal dinner given Saturday night, August 22, at the Cosmos Club in Washington, honoring Margaret Cousins, distinguished Feminist, were enthralled by a glimpse behind the scenes at her work for the betterment of Indian women.

For Mrs. Cousins not only had a highly significant and moving story to tell, but she is endowed with a natural gift for story telling and an Irish wit and sense of drama which lent life and sparkle to the historic incidents and revealing anecdotes which she recounted.

She told, for instance, how she advanced the last 50 rupees which she had in her pocket to send the cable from the All-Asian Women's Conference to Geneva asking for equal nationality rights for women and how the message arrived just at the critical time to influence Asian members of the League of Nations Council.

If she hadn't had the 50 rupees for the cable on her person and if the All-Asian Women's Conference hadn't been meeting at the critical time, the story might have been quite a different one. Mrs. Cousins feels that Providence had much to do with giving the Asian women this opportunity of voicing to the world their belief in their nationality rights.

Of Gandhi, Mrs. Cousins said that his attitude toward women was naturally reactionary and "protective" but that after women demonstrated their ability to participate successfully in the campaign of passive resistance, he has been generous in his praise.

An objectionable protection clause concerning women in industry was, indeed, written into the proposed constitution for India, drafted by Gandhi's party, but this has been protested by Women's Indian Association.

The proposed constitution does specify the Equal Rights and obligations of women in citizenship, however, and says there should be no discrimination against women in the holding of government offices.

Mrs. Cousins was the first woman magistrate in India, where she has been for 15 years and has taken an active part in the organization of the Women's Indian Association and its work for the betterment of conditions for women of India. Before coming to India, she was also a pioneer in the militant suffrage movement in Ireland and was imprisoned for her agitation in behalf of Equal Rights.

For eight years she has been editor of *Stri Dharma,* the official organ of the Women's Indian Association, having a circulation in 41 countries, including many Asian countries where the fight for the freedom of women is in its beginning.

Her devotion to the work in India kept her there for more than a year after her husband had come to this country and even now that she is with Mr. Cousins in America she is making plans for her return to India. Much of her time in this country will be spent in taking a course in home economics, which will aid her in pushing forward work on a proposed Women's Central Institute of Home Science in India, for which funds are now being raised with the aid of Lady Irwin, wife of the former viceroy to India.

Twelve guests were present at the dinner given for Mrs. Cousins. They were officers of the National Woman's Party in Washington who are most interested in international affairs.

Eleven Years Ago in Tennessee

(*Editor's Note:* The following is an excerpt from the address of Sue S. White at the Suffrage Anniversary Celebration of the Susan B. Anthony Foundation of Maryland in Baltimore on August 26.)

IT has been suggested that I tell you something of the events leading up to the action of the Tennessee Legislature in ratifying the suffrage amendment. That State, as you know, was the thirty-sixth to ratify. Its action turned the scales and made it possible for us to be here on the 26th of August rather than some other season of the year—probably some cold blizzardy day in mid-winter.

The story has been told so often that I would hesitate to tell it again except on such a birthday occasion, and there is no need to go into details or to indulge in personal reminiscence. There are other things more vital to us today, to talk about. There are one or two points, however, of which I want to remind this audience and so I shall briefly trace the outline of that last chapter of the suffrage struggle.

Throughout the early part of 1920 it seemed doubtful if the suffrage amendment could be ratified in time for women to vote in the November election. Finally by the latter part of March thirty-five States had been won, but in the weeks following it became obvious that it would take something like a miracle to supply the decisive thirty-sixth.

Suffrage leaders had talked of the possibility of Tennessee's ratifying, but it was usually with the sigh that it was too bad it could not until 1921. There was a provision in the State constitution that prohibited, in terms and practical effect, action by a Legislature elected before the submission of the amendment. In the face of that provision it was taken for granted that Tennessee would not be the thirty-sixth State unless ratification was carried over into the following year.

Every other possibility for ratification had been thoroughly canvassed and the situation seemed desperate, indeed, to those who were anxious to get it over with. Suffrage was definitely blocked.

However, there were pending before the Supreme Court of the United States cases involving the ratification of another amendment then pending which seemed to bear upon the legal question that would be involved in the event the Tennessee Legislature could be induced to act in the face of its own constitutional inhibition.

In the meantime, a poll had been made of the Tennessee Legislature.

Finally the Supreme Court handed down a decision that opened the way. To prominent lawyers was propounded this question: "If the Tennessee Legislature should ratify, would the action be valid?"

Their answer was, "Yes." The first conference on this point was held with a loyal friend of suffrage, Hon. Frank P. Walsh. The next was with his then law-

partner, Hon. Joseph W. Folk, a native Tennessean, and then was seen Senator Thomas J. Walsh of Montana. Their opinions were given the widest publicity. To other prominent lawyers and political leaders the same question was propounded and from them the same opinion received.

The White House elicited an official opinion from the Attorney General's office. It too was favorable and President Wilson wired the Governor of Tennessee urging him to call a special session of the Legislature. The Governor in turn elicited an opinion from his official legal advisor, the Attorney General of the State. It also was favorable and the Governor announced that he would call the Legislature to meet on August 9. The great weight of legal learning was with the suffragists, if only the Tennessee Legislature could be won.

As the delegates to the Democratic National Convention gathered in San Francisco, the papers throughout the country were filled with stories of these developments. The weight of the legal opinions, the President's action, and the response of the Governor of Tennessee made it front-page news. The convention passed a resolution calling upon the Tennessee Legislature to ratify. It was then time to open headquarters in Nashville, and early in July suffragists and their opponents poured into the State from all over the country. The struggle was being dramatized during the heat of a presidential campaign and the eyes of the nation were turned on Tennessee. It was one of the hottest political fights ever waged in that State which is equivalent to saying one of the hottest anywhere.

The climax of the campaign was intensely dramatic. The Senate having already acted, the vote was due to be taken in the House of Representatives. There were ninety-six members present that morning, including the Speaker. A motion was made to table the resolution and the clerk began to call the roll. Up the stairs on to the floor of the House rushed the Governor of Tennessee. Undoubtedly something unusual had happened in his office, and things began to happen on the floor of the House. There was a lot of scurrying about as the voice of the clerk droned off the list of members. Unless something happened at once we were lost. Rumors began to fly that the Democratic standardbearer, Governor Cox, had suddenly appeared in Nashville. Other rumors were to the effect that he had just talked very emphatically over the telephone with Tennessee's Governor.

The result of the roll call on the motion to table was a tie—forty-eight to forty-eight—and only that by the grace of a member near the bottom of the list, who at the last minute voted not to table, but as to whose vote on the ratifying resolution we, up to that time, had had little assurance.

Almost immediately another roll call started—this time on the resolution to ratify. If it too was only a tie vote, again we were lost. Again something had to happen. There was more scurrying about, hurriedly, desperately. A member near the top of the alphabetical list, who had voted to table the resolution, now voted for it. So far so good, but would our other recent recruit stand firm? Would all the rest of the forty-eight stand firm? They did—the vote was forty-nine to forty-seven, and the day was saved.

Within a period of ten anxious minutes we had pased from defeat to victory. Under all the circumstances that victory could have come in no other way than it did come—as a surprise to our opponents. For the simple reason that another provision of the Tennessee constitution made the whole campaign precarious from the beginning to the end. It required two-thirds of the Legislature for a quorum. Thirty-four men out of the total membership of nine-nine could at anytime break a quorum by absenting themselves from the State. Twice before, within my own experience, this had happened in Tennessee. This point involved the most delicate strategy. I, for one, was daily shaking in my boots, lest the opposition should take to heart some of the optimism that was being expressed by visiting suffragists, and run off with part of the Legislature before our friends could bring the question to a vote. As a matter of fact, it finally did break a quorum while the motion to reconsider was pending, but it was too late to destroy the effect of the favorable vote that our friends had forced. Secretary Colby proclaimed the Nineteenth Amendment as the law of the land as soon as he received the official certificate of the Legislature's action from the Tennessee Governor. It is the anniversary of that proclamation that is celebrated each year as the birthday of the Susan B. Anthony amendment.

Eleven Years of Suffrage

WHEN women obtained the vote eleven years ago, they demonstrated immediate and particular interest first, in obtaining a greater share of authority over their children; second, in equalization of property and inheritance rights; third, especially during the present period of depression, in securing industrial equality; and, fourth, in having their citizenship guaranteed by an equal nationality law, according to Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, national chairman of the National Woman's Party, in a statement issued August 26, commemorating the eleventh anniversary of suffrage.

Organized to remove discriminations against women in the law, the National Woman's Party is sponsoring, and will continue to sponsor until it becomes a law, an amendment to the United States Constitution providing that men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the nation and all territory subject to its jurisdiction.

But in addition to its work for the great general reform of this amendment, the Woman's Party in the eleven years since suffrage has sponsored many specific Equal Rights measures in Congress and in State Legislatures. Equal Rights measures which the Woman's Party has drawn up or has supported have been secured in twenty-five States and territories.

The following summary groups these Equal Rights laws according to their character:

1. EQUALIZING RIGHTS OF GUARDIANSHIP OF CHILDREN OF OTHERS AND POWERS GROWING OUT OF THESE RIGHTS:
   California, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia.
2. EQUALIZING RESPONSIBILITY FOR ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN:
   New Jersey.
3. EQUALIZING PROPERTY RIGHTS:
   California, Delaware, Florida, Louisiana, Maryland.
4. EQUALIZING INHERITANCE RIGHTS AND RIGHTS IN PROPERTY OF DECEASED SPOUSE:
   Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, New York, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia.
5. EQUALIZING RIGHT TO ACT AS ADMINISTRATOR OR EXECUTOR:
   Louisiana, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia.
6. EQUALIZING POWER TO MAKE CONTRACTS AND TO BE OFFICERS IN A CORPORATION:
   District of Columbia, Florida, Louisiana, New Jersey.
7. EQUALIZING RIGHTS TO EARNINGS:
   New Jersey.
8. EQUALIZING RIGHT TO SUE AND BE SUED:
   Delaware, Georgia, South Carolina.
9. EQUALIZING GROUNDS FOR DIVORCE AND RESULTS OF DIVORCE AND GROUNDS FOR ANNULMENT:
   New Jersey, Pennsylvania.

10. Equalizing Conditions for Settlement for Poor Relief:
Pennsylvania.
11. Equalizing Right to choose Domicile for Voting:
Maine, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia.
12. Equalizing Age of Majority:
Ohio.
13. Equalizing Conditions for making a Will:
New York.
14. Equalizing Right to Public Office:
Delaware, Louisiana, Maryland.
15. Equalizing Pay and other conditions in Teaching:
Maryland, New Jersey, New York.
16. Equalizing Pay in Public Service:
Maryland.
17. Giving Right to Jury Service and Extending Women's Opportunity Service:
Louisiana, Maine, District of Columbia, Rhode Island, Utah.
18. Opening Night Work to Women Pharmacists:
New York.
19. Giving Women the Vote:
Porto Rico.
20. Equalizing all Legal Rights Except in Industry:
Wisconsin.

In addition to the above, West Virginia has adopted a new code, effective this year, which eliminates a number of existing discriminations against women. One of these deals with inheritance. The mother is now permitted to inherit on equal terms with the father.

Also, in Georgia, an equal inheritance bill passed both houses of the Legislature a few days ago, and is now awaiting signature of the Governor.

Celebrating the past but looking toward the future, Mrs. Wiley said: "At the Alva Belmont House, the beautiful national headquarters of the Woman's Party gift of its president, Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, no day passes without definite activity on behalf of Equal Rights.

"As, during the suffrage campaign, the Woman's Party put its strength into uniting, for the Suffrage Amendment, the forces which had been scattered and divided among so many State campaigns, so at the present time, while continuing work for Equal Rights legislation in the individual States, the Woman's Party seeks to focus upon the National Equal Rights Amendment the various forces working for different items on the equality program. The Equal Rights Amendent was drafted by Alice Paul and named the Lucretia Mott Amendment in honor of the founder of the Equal Rights movement. Hearings on the Amendment have been held before the Committees of both Houses of Congress; and deputations of women representing all sections of the country have gone to Presidents Harding, Coolidge, and Hoover, respectively, to urge Administrative support for the measure."

Mrs. Wiley referred to the fight for equality in nationality as the national legislation of the greatest interest to the Woman's Party, discussing, of course, the Cable Bill of March, 1931, which removed many restrictions against women in the nationality laws of the United States. Many consider the passage of this bill the greatest single step toward equality since the passage of the Suffrage Amendment, according to Mrs. Wiley.

Mrs. Wiley adds that the success of the Woman's Party in obtaining equal nationality enactments by Congress has given it a position of unquestioned preeminence in the international movement for equal rights in nationality. Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, active advisor and coadjutor at every stage of its program, as well as president of the Woman's Party, has been in constant consultation with international Feminist leaders as to the strategy and conduct of the campaign for an equal world code; and she has, during the past year, contributed thousands of dollars toward the support of a headquarters at Geneva for the Inter-American Commission of Women in its fight to obtain an equal nationality agreement from the nations of the world. All this is in addition to her munificent gifts to the Woman's Party work in this country. Alice Paul and Doris Stevens have stood beside her in the van of the international struggle for equal citizenship.

One very interesting aspect of the present economic depression in the United States is the strong demand on the part of women for industrial equality, Mrs. Wiley said.

They have been forced into this, she says, even when they had not previously thought of themselves as being Feminists, by nation-wide efforts to force them out of industry and "back into the home." The discharge of married women, the effort to dismiss all women from night work jobs while continuing these jobs for men employees, and similar proposals, have roused women to the urgent necessity of having their rights written into the Constitution.

"Throughout these eleven years, and most particularly during the past year of depression," Mrs. Wiley asserted, "the Woman's Party has led the demand for industrial equality, objecting to all laws applying to women only, since they make it harder for women to get and keep jobs, though not opposing the abolition of night work or any other "protective" legislation affecting both men and women.

The Woman's Party ranks have been constantly increased by employed women who realize the menace to their pay envelopes in proposed legislation and regulations which discriminate against women as workers, she said.

"The gravity of the present industrial situation cannot be over-emphasized, Mrs. Wiley concluded by stating. "It is absolutely necessary that a woman's right to work remain inviolable. In such times as these, the right to work is the right to live. The Woman's Party will intensify its opposition to all discriminations against women in industry during the coming fall and winter. Furthermore, the tendency to deny women equality of opportunity in industry has been reflected in a similar denial of opportunities for service in public office. Women have been given but slight and inadequate recognition by way of appointment to high office."

Brazil's Feminist Congress

THE Second International Feminist Congress held in Rio de Janeiro under the auspices of the Brazilian Federation of Women in July was a "huge success" according to Bertha Lutz, president of the Federation.

"Much has been accomplished through the Congress for the advancement of women in Brazil," she writes, "and we feel it was a huge success."

Dr. Carmen Velasco Portinho, a recent delightful visitor to Alva Belmont House, and Mercedes Gomez Velutini represented the Inter-American Commission of Women at the Congress.

The opening session and all other meetings were crowded. The President of Brazil appointed Eugenia Celso Carneiro de Mendonça as official representative of the Government to the Congress, and practically every Brazilian State also had an official representative appointed by the governor.

Many international organizations of women sent delegates, and there was held, in connection with the sessions, an exhibition of Feminist progress. Both the Inter-American Commission of Women and the National Woman's Party were represented at the latter by a diverse assortment of literature covering their activities and embodying research results, pictures, and related material.

The Historical Institute of Brazil received the Congress at a special session, at which Miss Lutz spoke on the historic significance of the woman's movement.

"Brazil is undergoing a transition period after the revolution," Miss Lutz

states in her report on the Congress, "in which all laws are being modified, so our Committee on Women's Rights was a most important one. Full citizenship was asked for, on equal conditions for men and women, including the vote, already granted to the State of Rio Grande do Norte by President Juvenal Lamartine; access to all political, administrative, and judiciary offices; equal civil and economic rights in marriage as to domicile, rights over children. *et cetera*. A demand was formulated to do away with the husband's right to establish the domicile and to forbid the wife's practicing a profession; another demand was made that husband or wife inherit before father and mother when no will is made. Women jurors were asked for. . . . ."

One of the meetings of the Congress was held at the American Embassy. "The United States Ambassador, Hon. Edwin V. Morgan, has always been a friend to Brazilian Feminists," says Miss Lutz. Another meeting was in the beautiful tropic patio of the Spanish Embassy.

The establishment of women police was a lively topic of discussion, according to Miss Lutz, who states that a committee drew up a plan for inaugurating women police service in Brazil and turned it over to the Chief of Police of Rio de Janeiro, Dr. Baptista Luzardo, himself an avowed Feminist.

One of the interesting indirect results of the Congress, adds the official report, was the organization of women police in the neighboring Republic of Uruguay, whose Government invited, at the suggestion of Miss Lutz, Commandant Mary Allen, who had come from London as a delegate to the Congress, to confer on the establishment of such a force. Two days after Commandant Allen's landing in Montevideo, the President of Uruguay decreed the organization of women police. Brazilian women are at present working with renewed enthusiasm for a similar organization in Brazil, according to Miss Lutz.

Social events, excursions, and airplane flights added variety to the program of addresses, round table conferences, and open forum discussions. The exhibition of Feminist Progress was largely attended, as were the regular sessions, and press notices were enthusiastically favorable.

Feminist Notes

Night Work for Women—Almost

ALTHOUGH the proposed amendment exempting women holding responsible positions of management from night-work prohibition failed to carry the necessary two-thirds majority at the International Labor Conference at Geneva, it failed by only two votes.

It was favored by seventy-four votes for, with only forty against in the final voting. A total of seventy-six votes for the amendment was required, however, to make it effective.

While the results of the ballot still deny women who fill supervisory or managerial positions in industrial work the right to work at night, the record of the votes would seem to indicate that opinion is leaning toward this reform. Moreover, the final ballot showed an advance over the first voting, which was fifty-four for and forty-three against.

Lindbergh Senior, the Feminist

CHARLES A. LINDBERGH, one-time Congressman from Minnesota and father of the famous flyer, was a staunch and whole-hearted Feminist and advocate of woman's suffrage. The anniversary of suffrage recalls his indignation at the treatment of women in 1917 during picketing at the White House.

He hotly resented the behavior of the police that caused scenes of violence at the White House, according to a story of the Lindbergh family now running in *McCall's Magazine*. He wrote an open letter to President Wilson, protesting against "the disgraceful scenes," and after three days of watching the picketing he characterized the treatment of the women as "our national disgrace."

The story quotes him as follows:

"What is it," he said, "that makes men put on a uniform that should mean law and order, protection for those within the law, and punishment for those without, and then accept orders from a higher authority and carry them out in absolute violation of their oath?

"Can't men *think* any more?

"Have we lost our power to reason?

"And all this over the question of whether women have the right to vote! Why, of course, they have the right.

"When I hear men discuss this question I think of my own mother and sisters, and the courage, intelligence, and honesty they have showed in shaping their lives and bringing up their children. I think of my own children, and all the young folks I know, and ask myself: 'When will men cease to make a political football out of human rights?' This sort of thing makes me sick at heart—but what can one do?"

Pioneer and Leader

DR. MARY O'MALLEY, distinguished woman pioneer in the field of Federal psychiatry, left America recently to participate in the International Neurologic Congress at Berne, Switzerland.

A Feminist and member of the National Woman's Party, Dr. O'Malley has demonstrated that women can succeed as well as men in this difficult field. In 1905 she joined the staff of St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, and now has entire supervision of its 1,450 women patients with a dozen women doctors working under her at the Federal institution, which is now conceded, even by the German doctors who once led in psychiatric research, to lead in this work.

"The World War focused medical attention on neuro-psychiatric cases," Dr. O'Malley said.

"I saw between 10,000 and 12,000 such cases come through this hospital as the soldiers returned from overseas. This was the only Federal institution of the kind at the time, and we served as clearing house for all who later were sent to the various veterans' hospitals.

"In that experience we were able to prove the worth of the woman psychiatrist in caring for men as well as for women. Her mother instinct enables her to view and to help as children these adults who have, from mental stress, regressed to lower age levels. And I have seen a roomful of soliders identify as mother a kindly woman physician."

An Athletic American First

ANITA GREW, 22-year-old daughter of the American Ambassador, Joseph C. Grew, swam the Bosporus from the Black Sea to the Sea of Marmora, a distance of about nineteen miles on the morning of August 18.

According to press reports to the New York *Times*, it is believed that this was the first time that anyone had swum the entire length of the Bosporus.

Miss Grew entered the water at 4.40 in the morning and reached Seaglio Point at 9.50 A. M. She was accompanied on her swim by her father and a friend in a caique. They fed her hot chocolate and played a phonograph to pass the time.

Nationality of Married Women

IT occasionally happens that the stage gives unconscious propaganda to Feminist causes, says *The Woman's Leader*, British Feminist weekly, reporting that a new play, just opening in London, based on Mrs. Leslie's novel, "Mrs. Fischer's War," shows the plight of the British woman who has married a German during the late war.

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